

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 127568
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS NIACT IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 127568

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, CG

SUBJECT: KOLWEZI EVACUATION

1. OUR EFFORTS IN NEW YORK AND KINSHASA TO GET BELGIUM, FRENCH AND BRITISH AGREEMENT ON A PUBLIC SCENARIO REGARDING THE KOLWEZI EVACUATION HAVE GOTTEN NOWHERE TO DATE BECAUSE THE OTHER THREE DO NOT WISH TO COMMIT THEMSELVES PREMATURELY. YET WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE FRENCH PARADROP WILL TAKE PLACE EARLY MORNING FRIDAY AND BELGIANS WILL BE ON THE GROUND IN KAMINA NOT LONG AFTER. WE THEREFORE THINK IT IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE THAT WE WORK OUT A PUBLIC STRATEGY IMMEDIATELY.

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2. FOR LONDON, PARIS AND BRUSSELS: YOU SHOULD URGE HOST GOVERNMENT TO INSTRUCT THEIR EMBASSIES IN KINSHASA TO COORDINATE STRATEGIES WITH A VIEW TO GETTING AN IMMEDIATE PUBLIC CALL BY ZAIRE FOR ASSISTANCE. US HAS OBTAINED MOBUTU'S AGREEMENT TO SEND A LETTER ASKING FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE BUT IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER MOBUTU INTENDS

TO RELEASE IT IN ZAIRE. WE WOULD LIKE ZAIRE TO RELEASE THIS LETTER IMMEDIATELY AND INCLUDE REFERENCES TO REQUEST FOR BELGIAN, FRENCH AND UK ASSISTANCE.

3. FOR KINSHASA: IF THE OTHER THREE DO NOT RECEIVE PROMPT INSTRUCTIONS, YOU SHOULD UNILATERALLY URGE MOBUTU TO MAKE HIS INVITATION TO US PUBLIC. FAILING THIS, YOU SHOULD ADVISE HIM THAT WE WILL HAVE TO MAKE HIS LETTER PUBLIC IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES AS TO THE JUSTIFICATION FOR OUR ACTION.

4. FOR BRUSSELS, LONDON AND PARIS: YOU SHOULD ONCE AGAIN URGE HOST GOVERNMENTS TO CONCERT PROMPTLY ON A UN STRATEGY. NEW YORK PERMREPS WERE UNRESPONSIVE TO OUR SUGGESTIONS ON MAY 18, CLAIMING THAT THEIR INSTRUCTIONS DID NOT AUTHORIZE THEM TO AGREE ON A STRATEGY AT THIS STAGE. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE NOTIFICATION BY ZAIRE TO THE SC OF THEIR REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE FOUR WOULD HELP DEFLECT HOSTILE CHARGES IN THE UN, AND MOREOVER, IT WOULD PLACE ZAIRE IN LESS DEFENSIVE POSITION SHOULD DECIDE TO TAKE ISSUE AT SOME POINT TO SECURITY COUNCIL. IN THE INTERESTS OF TIME, IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO IF HOST GOVERNMENTS WOULD AUTHORIZE THEIR KINSHASA EMBASSIES TO COORDINATE ON TACTICS AND TEXT WITH MOBUTU, MODIFYING TEXT SUPPLIED REFTEL AS NECESSARY OTHERWISE, FOUR UN MISSIONS COULD COORDINATE IN NEW YORK. IN VIEW
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OF FACT THAT TOP ZAIRIANS AT UN MISSION ARE UNAVAILABLE, BEST SOLUTION MIGHT BE FOR GOZ TO CABLE LETTER TO SC PRESIDENT (VENEZUELA). VANCE

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NNN

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